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BEST AVAILABLE COPYAmendments to the Claims

Please amend Claim 74. Please add Claim 78. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1-73. (Canceled)

74. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting p75 nerve growth factor-responsive hair loss in a mammal, said method comprising contacting keratinocytes of the mammal with a fragment of p75 nerve growth factor comprising amino acid sequence KGK, peptide comprising KGA which binds to the p75 nerve growth factor receptor on the keratinocytes, thereby inhibiting p75 nerve growth factor-responsive hair loss.
75. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in keratinocytes in a mammal, said method comprising contacting the keratinocytes in the mammal with a peptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, thereby inhibiting apoptosis in the keratinocytes in the mammal.
76. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in keratinocytes in a mammal, said method comprising contacting the keratinocytes in the mammal with a peptide comprising SEQ ID NO:9, thereby inhibiting apoptosis in the keratinocytes in the mammal.
77. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in keratinocytes in a mammal, said method comprising contacting the keratinocytes in the mammal with a peptide comprising SEQ ID NO:10, thereby inhibiting apoptosis in the keratinocytes in the mammal.
78. (New) A method of inhibiting p75 nerve growth factor-responsive hair loss in a mammal, said method comprising contacting keratinocytes of the mammal with a fragment of a mutant p75 nerve growth factor comprising amino acid sequence KGA instead of KGK in

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the binding site for p75^{NTR}, the fragment binding to the p75 nerve growth factor receptor on the keratinocytes, thereby inhibiting p75 nerve growth factor-responsive hair loss.